

Look for blue summer crisp, cool springtime

By RUSTLE SHAND

It's going to be a blue spring. Blue as in navy sparked with white, shocked by red, or muted with violet. It's an important part of the new, fresh, clean, crisp look for the first spring of the '80s.

Too many of us take navy blue for granted. Sure, it is the most flattering basic color a woman can wear. It doesn't drain color from the face as does black. Nor does it clash with skin color to produce an unattractive hue as many of the brights are wont to do.

But, the truth of the matter is, navy has been taking a back seat on the fashion color spectrum for years. Now, noting the demand for a return to quality fashion, European and American designers are featuring navy blue in their spring collections.

Undeniably, black is back but with navy is newer. It's definitely fresher and particularly young and crisp when touched with white pique. As Claire Pearone said, "Navy with white pique is always fresh for spring and it is combination that has come back into the couture houses in France."

Designer Bernard Perris took the finest bolt of navy wool crepe that Paris had to offer and turned it into a smashing, cavalier-looking trouser ensemble. Then he added removable white pique wing collar and cuffs, creating a timeless, seasonless new statement.

"THE PERRIS APPROACH to navy and white creates a year-round, high fashion statement," said Ms. Pearone. "The light weight wool crepe takes the seasons and the clock out of fashion. The suit may be worn year round, at all hours and all places," she said.

Yves St. Laurent also likes navy. Since everything this leading French designer does must be tied into a theme, he calls his classic navy designs, "the sailor look." Using fine wool gabardine, St. Laurent has striped his short white jacket with navy, added a slim navy skirt and recommends a silk shell in bright red or royal blue be worn under the jacket. He dresses legs in sheer white stockings.

"I adore the simplicity of the navy and white

ala mode

combination," said Hattie Belkin of the YSL design. "Navy and white is now very prevalent in the European couture collections. You will see a lot of navy this fall."

On our side of the Atlantic, designers such as Frank Masandrea have captured the crisp, all-American approach to spring dressing with a medley of navy and white lined. His navy jacket suit is teamed with a white knife pleated skirt and a very feminine white sheer collar touches the jacket. Low, cone heel navy and white spectator pumps complete the all-American look, shown at Lord & Taylor.

Photos by Stephen Cantrell, Linda Solomon, Dick Kelley

fashion calendar

Monday, February 25

Hattie, Inc. — Ana Colon's collection of designs for the sophisticated woman has been flown to Birmingham for viewing from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Hattie's located in the 555 Building on South Woodward. Tiny pleats, twisted rope, shimmering silks, and hand-painted jackets and coats are featured in this collection. Through February 26 at the Birmingham store only.

Lord & Taylor — Think Health, Think Fit is the topic when fitness fans get together to shape up with friends every Monday and Wednesday from 9-10 a.m. through March 26. Meet in front of Lord & Taylor at the Lakeside Mall. For information call 348-9400 or 247-1745.

Saks Fifth Avenue — The Geoffrey Beene collection for spring/summer will be informally modeled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Regency Room of the Somerset Mall store.

Alfred's Restaurant — Informal modeling of the season's newest fashions takes place each day of the week from noon to 2 p.m. On Monday Bonwit Teller will be featured, Tuesday Lingerie, Wednesday Don Thomas Sporthaus, Thursday Bonwit Teller, Friday Ann Taylor, and on Saturday Roberts Furs will be featured. For information call 642 643-8865.

Tuesday, February 26

Barbizon School — There will be a fashion merchandising seminar at 10 a.m. in the lower level of Somerset Mall during which owners and managers of at least 10 of the mall's stores will discuss their individual merchandising policies, clientele, and opportunities for advancement in the merchandising field. For information call the Barbizon School at 559-1390.

Wednesday, February 27

Saks Fifth Avenue — The Stanley Sherman collection for spring/summer will be informally modeled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Better Sportswear department of the Somerset Mall store.

Thursday, February 28

Saks Fifth Avenue — The newest seasonal interpretations of The Suit will be informally modeled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Better Sportswear department of the Somerset Mall store.



Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON

Tricks or treats

I admit it's cheating, but Indian Earth is a sensational way to make you look as though you came back from Florida yesterday instead of two weeks ago. A mineral powder recommended for both men and women, Indian Earth is free of dyes, fragrance or artificial agents commonly found in other cosmetics. All you do is apply it sparingly with the accompanying puff applicator and you'll achieve a very natural bronze look. The product can also be used for highlighting, contouring and blushing purposes.

Betty's Grocery Store, 877 Hunter Blvd., Birmingham, 644-2323.

Cover story

The good news is that hot water bottles serve to keep your cold feet warm and toasty and your aching brow nicely chilled. The bad news is that hot water bottles are ugly as sin. Now you can buy them disguised with adorable covers. The pig-shaped cover in pink velour with pink satin ears, snout and hoofs (\$18.36). The mauve-colored elephant-shaped cover has floppy gray satin ears (\$18.36). The Long Johns cover is constructed in the shape of a man wearing gray Long Johns. His pink satin face is trimmed with gray woolly hair and matching beard.

Plaza Suite, Franklin Plaza, 12 Mile and Northwestern, Southfield, 357-1121.

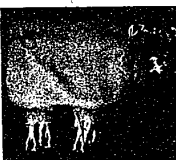
Spaced in

When it comes to space, Millie Simon is a genius. If you have space in your kitchen, bathroom, closet, laundry room or anywhere that needs reorganizing or if you are designing a new home, Ms. Simon will take the space in question and multiply it in ways you can't believe. She uses every nook and cranny to advantage, provides carpenters (if necessary), supervises the installation and then, once it's done, comes in and shows you how to organize it.

Millie Simon, 661-2646.

Some sweat

Whether or not you enjoy your daily jogging, you might as well look as though you do with a bright and cheery sweatsuit outfit from Ann Taylor. The tops come in three styles: V-neck (\$12), crewneck (\$12), or hooded with a zipper (\$18) and all of the tops have a tiny Ann Taylor emblem. The drawstring pants are priced at \$18. Both the tops and bottoms are in stock in yummy colors such as fuchsia, melon, lavender, royal blue, forest green and sunny yellow, and they mix or match beautifully. Ann Taylor, Somerset Mall, Troy, 643-4457.



Yves St. Laurent's navy gabardine skirt, \$330, is teamed with his pin stripe navy and white short jacket, \$520, and a royal silk shell, \$165. Add straw hat, Maude Frizon pumps, and white sheer stockings. Hattie, Inc.



Bernard Perris interprets spring in navy wool crepe. Pant has asymmetrical closing, soft draping from waist to ankle, short, double-breasted jacket with double row of front

pockets. The outfit comes with sleeveless cape vest, detachable white pique wing collar and button-off white pique cuffs, \$1450. Claire Pearone.



Sheer elegance and opulence

New arrivals and exclusive designs can be seen in our Designers Showcase. Our extensive collection features hand blown Italian crystal from Murano in many shapes and sizes for all areas of your home. You will find a wide choice of carefully crafted luxury lights including pieces by Venini, Camer and VeArt.

Michigan Chandelier Co.
you'll see us in a better light

BIRMINGHAM STORE ONLY...6580 TELEGRAPH AT MAPLE...BLOOMFIELD PLAZA
Exclusively Featured in Our Designers Showcase